

From your Parish Evangelist...

Happy Halloween! Oh, wait... I guess I'm a few months early. I couldn't help thinking of our Autumn celebration of the macabre when reflecting on this week's readings. The common protagonist in the stories is a character whom we are all very familiar with, yet we don't often discuss in depth: the Evil One.

Somewhere in a picture album at my mom's house, there is a picture of my two-year-old self all decked out for Trick-or-Treating. A tiny red knit hat with little horns sewn to the top, a polyester-stuffed pointed tail hanging from the seat of my Osh-Kosh-B'Gosh, and a plastic three-pronged pitchfork clutched in my hand. How cute. We mock death and fear on All Hallows' Eve, as the next day we celebrate the Church Triumphant with the Feast of All Saints. It's good fun, but we should remain mindful that Old Scratch is no mere villain of fiction...

It can be said that if the Blessed Trinity occupies the main role in Sacred Scripture (and human history, as well), then the Devil could receive the title of 'supporting actor.' As we see in our First Reading from Genesis, he has been lurking around from the very beginning. Throughout the Old Testament and into the New, as we read in the Gospel, the Deceiver has been hard at work in his desire to turn humankind away from God. From the Garden of Eden, to our Lord's temptation in the Judaean desert, to the struggles and snares in each of our lives today, Satan lures humans to surrender to the vices that define him: pride and ambition.

We hear of the Devil's beginnings in the Book of Revelation: *Then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels battled against the dragon. The dragon and its angels fought back, but they did not prevail and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The huge dragon, the ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, who deceived the whole world, was thrown down to earth, and its angels were thrown down with it.* (Rev 12:7-9)

Notice that we often associate demons with hell - the *eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels* (Matt 25:41) - but if we listen closely, Satan's realm is in fact the world in which we live! St. Paul calls him the *prince of the power of the air* (Eph 2:2), and even our Lord refers to him as *the prince of this world* (John 12:31). If we're honest with ourselves, we can easily see his dastardly works all around us, and even interiorly in our own vices and concupiscence. We may never encounter a blatant physical manifestation of Evil, as Jesus did in the scene previous to this Gospel - but as the entirety of Sacred Scripture shows, Satan is a wily, clever, and convincing liar - baiting his traps with pleasure, gratification, and temporal prosperity...

St. Mark tells us today that Jesus was accused of being possessed by Beelzebul. That demonic name is actually a Jewish pun! Beelzebub is a name associated with the Caananite god Ba'al, meaning 'lord of the heavenly dwelling.' But by changing the last letter to Beelzebul, the name is rendered 'lord of the flies'! Even in antiquity, the personage of Evil was mocked by those who knew true fear, filial fear, belonged to God alone. Filial fear is the fear of offending someone we love!

While Satan and his minions are a true entity in both temporal and spiritual reality, it is through the Ultimate Sacrifice of the Cross that we have been given the strength and fortitude to triumph over his enticements! We live in the glory of the Resurrection, not the shadow of corruption! As St. Paul writes, *be wise to what is good, and simple as to what is evil; then the God of peace will quickly crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.* (Rom 16: 19-20).

Only 21 more weeks to Halloween!

Brandon Sargent

STEUBENVILLE SIGNUPS

Sign up *NOW* for the Steubenville East Conference this **July 13-15!** This weekend retreat at UMass Lowell is a great opportunity to meet other teens from around New England and to delve deeper into questions you may be having about your faith. If you are looking for an energizing and rejuvenating time this could be a great experience for you. For more information please contact Hollis. A signup sheet will be available in the Gathering Space after all the Masses.

Youth Group Movie Night!

Please join us this evening at 6PM!! Come learn about the difficulties of homelessness and the struggles of the homeless to retain their human dignity. This will be a great conversation and preparation for us to start serving once a month at Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter! As always, invite your friends and be ready to eat lots of pizza! Contact Hollis if you have any questions.

VBS ~ Have You Booked Your Voyage!!

Are you registered yet for our exciting voyage?? Get your registration in NOW as we set sail on *June 25th at 9AM!!* We will travel to a tropical island on 1 South Road and continue our journey for the entire week with prayer, crafts and FUN! So come aboard!! The crew is busy getting things ready for YOU! If you are interested in volunteering for VBS, please call the Parish Office at 432-8711 or stop by the Welcome Center for more information. All are welcome!

Fathers Day Spiritual Bouquet

Envelopes can be found at the church entrance for those who would like a special remembrance for loved ones by contributing to the beautiful spiritual flower bouquet. Simply print the names of your loved ones clearly on the envelope and return it with the donation to the collection basket or the Welcome Center. Cards are also available to send to all the special fathers in your life! Thank you for your generosity!!

Parish Picnic ~ SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars...the St. Mark Parish Picnic will be held on **Sunday, July 29th!** Please join us for hot dogs, hamburgers and all the fixings... plus a lot of FUN! If you would like to be on the Picnic Planning Committee, please call the office at 432-8711.

2018 Sacramental Preparation Registration

All eligible youth *enrolled in the 3rd through 9th grades in the 2018/2019 school year*, will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Saturday, November 17 at St. Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell St., Manchester.** To accommodate all St. Mark's families, there are three sessions now open for enrollment to choose from.
Session 1: Mon July 9 - Fri July 13 (9AM - Noon)
Session 2: Mon Aug 6 - Fri Aug 10 (6PM - 8PM)
Session 3: Tue Evenings in Oct (6PM - 8PM)

Confirmation Day Details

The Most Reverend Peter Libasci, Tenth Bishop of Manchester will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Date - Saturday, November 17, 2018

Place - St Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell St, Manchester
The following three liturgical services will be celebrated:
11:00AM, 1:30PM and 7:00PM.

ALL forms can be found at our website stmarksnh.org, the Welcome Center or the Parish Office for your convenience. They can also be dropped off at the Parish Office, the Welcome Center or mailed to 1 South Road, Londonderry, NH. 03053.

This Week @ St. Mark's!!

Tuesday, June 12:

6AM-11PM Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)
7:00 PM St. Gianna's Place Meeting (Room 203)

Thursday, June 14:

7:00 PM K of C Officers Meeting (Room 209)

Friday, June 15:

6:00 PM Scout Meeting

Saturday, June 16:

9:30 AM Al Anon (Room 209)
7:00 AM Men of St. Joseph (Church/Hall)

Car Raffle *SUCCESS!!*

Thank you to everyone who helped make our car raffle successful!! A special thanks to our anonymous donor who donated the car, our FUNdraising Committee for spearheading this effort and all of YOU who participated! This effort raised more than \$4,500.00!!

Men of St. Joseph News

Calling all men! If you're looking for a great way to start your weekend, here's the answer. It starts early, 7:00 AM. It's hard hitting, like going to the gym. It's breakfast and a cup of coffee you didn't have to make. It's fellowship with guys who support and challenge each other to stand up for their family, church and community. Most important, it's guys helping each other become warriors who will take on the challenges of being a 21st century Catholic man. There are no sign-ups, no project, no dues. Just show up here at 7:00 AM next Saturday morning, June 16 for fellowship, food and prayer. We guarantee to have your headed out by 9:00 am sharp so you can get to your weekend projects. Come and check us out - you won't be disappointed. For more information, call Bill Donroe at 432-6066.

Quiet Moments in His Presence...

Did you know that Eucharistic Adoration is a weekly practice here at St. Mark's? Every Tuesday, from 6 AM until 11 PM, the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is present in the Chapel. Please come and spend an hour, or even just a few minutes. The Author of all Creation is truly here among us, and He patiently waits for you to 'Come and see' (John 1:39).

The Poor Box for June, July & August

Donations to the Poor Box for the summer months will benefit our local food pantries. The hungry in our community, especially those with children, have an increased need for food during the summer months when the schools (providing subsidized lunch programs) are not in session. This is often the time when the food supplies at the Food Pantries are the lowest. Please consider helping those in need by donating to the Poor Box this summer!! Thank you for your generosity.

Mass Intention Book for 2019

Our Mass Intention Book for 2019 is now OPEN. Please call the Parish Office at 432-8711 or stop by our Welcome Center to schedule your masses today.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We are SO excited that Children's Liturgy of the Word will continue during the summer. Please join us at the 9:30 AM mass where children ages 4-8 years of age will be dismissed to hear the inspiring Gospel message at an age appropriate level.

Are You Called to Be a Catechist?

Our staff has been working hard for the last few months to plan an engaging and dynamic Sacramental Prep Program for this Summer and Fall. Even with all of the time and the effort that we have put into planning this program, it will not be successful without a strong team of catechists working with us. Which is why we are creating ECHO, Evangelizing Catechists for Heroic Opportunities! We want to offer catechists time for spiritual renewal and chances to deepen their faith and relationship with Christ. Time commitments vary. For example, if you are only available to help with one session of Sacramental Prep that's perfect! If you are available for all three, that's perfect too! We are also recruiting Sunday School teachers, teachers aids, youth ministry witnesses, Adult Formation researchers and presenters, and more! If you are at all discerning the call to share the Faith with others in a new and exciting way please reach out to Hollis or Brandon!

Homeless Care Package Collection

The Outreach Committee and Youth Group are teaming up to do a collection for Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter for our homeless brothers and sisters in the area now until the second weekend of July. We are asking for any NEW washcloths, tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, hair brushes, combs, travel size shampoos & conditioners, bars of soap, mens and womens socks, feminine products, winter hats and fleece or wool blankets. The items will be put together in care packages by our first session of Sacramental Prep students.

How Do You Give?

Your giving makes a difference! It's a joy to receive the blessings God has placed in our hands. The joy only grows when we give and receive together. Our online giving service, ParishPay, has now become WeShare! To administer your account, visit our website stmarksnh.org and click on the WeShare icon! All existing information has migrated to this new service. If you have questions, please call the office at 432-8711.

Sacrificial Giving (June 2 & 3)

Parish Contact Information

Operating Funds

Offertory Envelopes (152)	\$3,982.00
Loose Cash & Checks	\$2,088.00
Electronic Giving (2)	\$270.00
WeShare	\$3,343.00
Social - Coffee & Donuts	\$110.00
Mass Donations	\$140.00
General Donations	\$1,726.40
Religious Education	\$550.00
Total	\$12,209.40

Parish Office	(603) 432-8711
Parish Email	info@stmarksnh.org
Web Page	stmarksnh.org
Office Hours	Mon-Thurs 9:30AM- 4 PM

Fr. Mike	frmike@stmarksnh.org
Deacon Tom	dctom@stmarksnh.org
Claudia Dominguez	claudia@stmarksnh.org
Hollis Dunlop	hollis@stmarksnh.org
Lisa Olsen	info@stmarksnh.org
Brandon Sargent	brandon@stmarksnh.org
Artie Carew	artie@stmarksnh.org

Designated Funds

Capital Development	\$863.00
Special Holy Day - Ascension	\$240.00
Diocesan	\$60.00
Total	\$1,163.00
Grand Total	\$13,372.40

Pastoral Council	Justin Paré
Finance Council	Kevin Cronin
Music	Artie Carew (603) 546-5503
Outreach	Dianne Zdankiewicz (603) 434-7991
Knights of Columbus	Brian Roche (603) 889-3284
Men of St Joseph	Bill Donroe (603) 432-6066
Prayer Line	(603) 432-7425
Safe Environment	Claudia Dominguez (603) 432-8711
Al-Anon	Saturdays, 9:30 - 11 AM
Birthright	(603) 434-3000
NH Catholic Charities, Windham	(603) 893-1971

Mass Intentions for June 9 - June 17

6/9 Saturday, 5 PM:

Ed Dziergowski by Dianne Hoppe

6/10 Sunday, 8 AM:

Kerry Hildreth by the Kelley family

6/10 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

David & Elodie Savoie by Monique Savoie

6/10 Sunday, 11 AM:

Jackson Isenberg

6/11 Monday, 9 AM:

Joseph Stokes by the Brown family

6/12 Tuesday, 9 AM:

Joan Bompastore by her family

6/13 Wednesday, 9 AM:

Abel Patenaude by John & Suzanne Patenaude

6/14 Thursday, 9 AM:

Deacon Timothy Hynes by Allan & Terry Fernald

6/16 Saturday, 5 PM:

People of the Parish

6/17 Sunday, 8 AM:

Michael MacNeil by Patricia MacNeil & family

6/17 Sunday, 9:30 AM:

Dennis Lescarbeau by Marie & Family Lescarbeau

6/17 Sunday, 11 AM:

James & Gloria Ciccolo by their family

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents are asked to participate in the baptismal catechesis program prior to their child's baptism.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM or by appointment

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples should contact the parish office at least six months in advance and before making any other wedding arrangements.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please call us to request the Sacrament of the Sick or to receive communion in the home.

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays, 6:00 AM-11PM / First Fridays 8 PM-12 AM